31st January 1929]

Protection to the indigenous pencil industry.

* 1206 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether the Government have under consideration any proposals for protecting the indigenous pencil industry from foreign competition?

A.—No.

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—"Is the hon. Minister aware that the Madras pencil industry has been suffering very severely from Japanese and German competition?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"It may be so."

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—"May I know whether the Department of Industries has acted on the suggestion of the Government as to the necessity for some measure of protection in the matter?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"I do not know."

Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu:—"The answer to this question is 'No'. May I know why this negative answer is given and why should not the Government give some protection to this industry?"

The hon. the President:—"That is no supplementary question."

Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi:—"May I know whether the Government purchase any pencils locally?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"Notice, Sir."

Mr. K. V. R. Swami:—"May I know whether all the requirements of Government can be met from this factory?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"I cannot say."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"In giving protection, are the Government taking any measure in regard to the railway freight?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"Full details are not available though the Madras Pencil Factory has been asked to give the Director of Industries further particulars on the matter."

Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu:—"May I know from the Government what their difficulty is in buying pencils from this factory?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"It is not a question concerning my portfolio."

Facilities for apprenticeship to students trained in the Trades school.

* 1207 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the students in the Madras Trades school find it difficult to enter suitable firms as apprentices on account of the limited number of apprentices taken by such firms; and

(*b*) how the Government propose to give facilities to students to learn a trade in view of such difficulty?

A.—(*a*) It is not correct to say that the 'students' of the Madras Trades School find it difficult to enter suitable firms as apprentices, because it is only bona fide apprentices attached to one or other

of the firms that are admitted in the Trades School. It seems, however, to be a fact that mufassal candidates find increasing difficulty in entering firms as apprentices as the number of suitable firms taking apprentices is limited and that a number of applications for admission to the Trades School has to be refused on account of the applicants not being bona fide apprentices.

(*b*) In view of the importance of spreading industrial education the Government have been considering a scheme for extending the system of apprenticeship training under private companies both in the city and in the mufassal and they hope to formulate definite proposals in the course of the next official year. They have also brought forward as a Part II Scheme for 1929–30 proposals for the institution of twelve scholarships of the value of Rs. 20 per mensem tenable by mufassal candidates serving apprenticeship in one or other of the firms in Madras and attending lectures at the Trades School.

Opening of Industrial and Trades Schools at Calicut and Mangalore respectively.

*1208 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have finally decided to open an Industrial School at Calicut and a Trades School at Mangalore in April next;

(*b*) what the industries and trades are that will be taught in the schools; and

(*c*) what the proposals of the Director of Industries are on the subject?

A.—(*a*) It has been decided to open an Industrial School at Calicut and a Trades School at Mangalore as early in the official year 1929–30 as possible.

(*b*) & (*c*) The school at Calicut is intended ultimately to institute courses in cabinet-making, blacksmithy, mechanical engineering, wood-working, mechanists' work, and motor car driving and mechanism. But to begin with, classes will be opened only in cabinet-making, blacksmithy and motor car drivers' work. At Mangalore the intention is in the first instance to establish part-time classes to provide instruction in the wood-working and engineering trades including motor engineering and to consider further extensions in the light of experience gained.

These are based on the Director's proposals.

Mr. R. Nagan Gowda:—"May I know whether any industrial school will be opened in the Ceded districts?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"There is to be one for Bellary."

Mr. K. V. R. Swami:—"Are there to be any schools opened for the Northern Circars?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"Not in the coming year."